## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

# RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2105 ANSWERED ON 7<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2025

### PROGRESS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF BHARATNET PROJECT IN TAMIL NADU

## 2105 SHRI R. DHARMAR:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of the BharatNet Project implementation in Tamil Nadu, including the number of Gram Panchayats connected so far;
- (b) the timeline set for completing the broadband connectivity to all Gram Panchayats in Tamil Nadu under the BharatNet scheme;
- (c) the challenges faced in the deployment of high-speed broadband infrastructure in rural areas of Tamil Nadu and the steps taken to overcome them;
- (d) the budget allocation and expenditure incurred so far under BharatNet in Tamil Nadu; and
- (e) the expected impact of BharatNet on rural development, education, healthcare, and digital services in Tamil Nadu?

### **ANSWER**

# MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. PEMMASANI CHANDRA SEKHAR)

- (a) & (b) BharatNet project is being implemented in a phased manner to provide broadband connectivity to Gram Panchayats (GPs) in the country. In Tamil Nadu 10,298 GPs have been made service ready till 30.06.2025 under BharatNet. Amended BharatNet program (ABP) is proposed to be implemented to provide connectivity to remaining GPs and villages on the demand basis. The timeline for completion of the construction phase under the ABP is three years from the date of sign of agreement.
- (c) Challenges like Right of way issues, involvement of multiple agencies etc. have been faced under the implementation of BharatNet in the state. All these challenges are being addressed with planning and co-ordination with concerned agencies.
- (d) Under BharatNet in Tamil Nadu, cost of work awarded is Rs.1544.44 crore (exclusive of taxes) out of which Rs.1093.74 crore has been utilized upto 30.06.2025.
- (e) As of June, 2025, about 25,254 FTTH connections, includes Government institutions such as Primary Health Centre, Schools, Panchayat Offices, etc., have been provided using BharatNet in Tamil Nadu. Access to high speed broadband connectivity through FTTH connections provides better education & health facilities, employment opportunities, e-commerce, e-governance, etc. for socio-economic development of the people.

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